

MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008 THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

COUNTY OF PLUMAS, CALIFORNIA MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

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SMITH & NEWELL

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

The Board of Supervisors and the Grand Jury County of Plumas Quincy, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Plumas, Quincy, California (County), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 9, 2009. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Professional standards require that independent auditors communicate with the County about matters that are important to the County's oversight role. We previously reported on internal control and compliance in our Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards and in our Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Each Major Program and Internal Control Over Compliance in Accordance With OMB Circular A-133 dated February 9, 2009.

However, during our audit we became aware of certain other matters that are opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. The following report summarized all our comments and suggestions including immaterial noncompliance, control deficiencies that are not considered significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and other matters involving internal control.

We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed these findings and recommendations with the County management, and we will be pleased to discuss them in further detail at your convenience.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, others within the organization, the Board of Supervisors and its regulatory agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Jewell

Smith & Newell, CPA's Yuba City, California

February 9, 2009

COUNTY OF PLUMAS, CALIFORNIA MANAGEMENT REPORT REQUIRED COMMUNICATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Plumas, California, for the year ended June 30, 2008, and have issued our report thereon dated February 9, 2009. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

1. Our Responsibilities Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and OMB Circular A-133

As stated in our engagement letter, our responsibility as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management and Smith & Newell, CPAs with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered County of Plumas' internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. We also considered internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether County of Plumas' financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit. Also in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, we examined, on a test basis, evidence about County of Plumas' compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the "U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement" applicable to each of its major federal programs for the purpose of expressing an opinion on County of Plumas' compliance with those requirements. While our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion, it does not provide a legal determination on County of Plumas' compliance with those requirements.

2. Planned Scope and Timing of Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our meeting about planning matters.

3. Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the County are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2007-2008. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate(s) affecting the financial statements are depreciation of capital assets, estimated cost of infrastructure assets and valuation of investments.

Management's estimate of depreciation is based on estimated or actual historical cost and the useful lives of such assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop depreciation estimates and determined that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users.

COUNTY OF PLUMAS, CALIFORNIA MANAGEMENT REPORT REQUIRED COMMUNICATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

4. Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

5. Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

6. Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

7. Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter.

8. Management Consultations with Other Independent Auditors

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

9. Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the County's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

This information is intended solely for the use of the County and management of the County and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

COUNTY OF PLUMAS, CALIFORNIA MANAGEMENT REPORT CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

08-FS-01 WIRE TRANSFERS

Condition

At the time of our fieldwork we noted two instances where the Treasurer had made wire transfers of funds without the approval from the Auditor Controller.

Cause

There is not a clear understanding of what the required policy is regarding Auditor approval of wire transfers.

Criteria

The Auditor-Controller provides general accounting functions to all departments and agencies whose funds are maintained in the County Treasury. In accordance with California Government Code 27005, all non-investment wire transfers are to approved by the Auditor-Controller.

Effect of Condition

Errors can occur and not be detected in a timely manner and reconciliation of cash is difficult when wire transfers are not approved by the Auditor Controller.

Recommendation

We recommend that the County adopt a policy regarding wire transfers which is in accordance with California Government Code 27005.

Corrective Action Plan

The Treasurer/Tax Collector has adopted a policy that wire transfers will not be sent by their office without written approval from the Auditor/Controller's office.

08-FS-02 PAYROLL WITHHOLDING

Condition

At the time of our fieldwork we noted that the State Disability Insurance withholding calculation was not reduced by cafeteria plan withholdings for employees that participated in the County's Section 125 Cafeteria Plan.

Cause

The payroll program was not coded correctly to reduce contributions to an employee's cafeteria plan from gross wages.

Criteria

Payroll withholding for contributions to an employee's cafeteria plan should be deducted from gross wages to calculate State Disability Insurance withholding.

Effect of Condition

The State Disability withholding calculation for employees participating in the County's cafeteria plan was based on gross wages rather than wages net of the contribution.

Recommendation

We recommend that the calculation of State Disability Insurance withholding for employee's participating in the cafeteria plan be based on wages after the deduction for contributions to the cafeteria plan.

MANAGEMENT REPORT CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

08-FS-02 PAYROLL WITHHOLDING (CONTINUED)

Corrective Action Plan

This required a fix from the County's automated payroll system. It is anticipated that it will be implemented by January 1, 2009.

08-FS-03 CASH DISBURSEMENT DOCUMENTATION

Condition

During our testing of twenty-five cash disbursements we noted that three disbursements did not have supporting documentation available.

Cause

The County policy requiring support for all cash disbursements was not properly followed.

Criteria

Good internal control requires that all cash disbursements have adequate supporting documentation available.

Effect of Condition

The risk of irregularities occurring and not being detected in a timely manner is increased when cash disbursements do not have adequate supporting documentation.

Recommendation

We recommend that all cash disbursements have adequate supporting documentation available.

Corrective Action Plan

The three disbursements noted were payments made out of trust funds. The policy will be that all trust funds must have supporting documents before payment is made. The Auditor has worked directly with all departments with trust funds and supporting documents will be required on all claims for payment.

08-FS-04 UNDER-FUNDING OF WORKERS COMPENSATION INTERNAL SERVICE FUND

Condition

We noted that at June 30, 2008, the County Workers Compensation self insurance fund had a deficit fund balance of \$556,865. The prior year deficit had been \$761,750.

Cause

The Workers Compensation self insurance fund has not collected revenues adequate to fund the increased cost of self insurance.

Criteria

Adequate reserves are necessary to ensure that the County is able to meet its' self insurance obligations. In addition, correct allocation of cost is necessary and required.

MANAGEMENT REPORT CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

08-FS-04 UNDER-FUNDING OF WORKERS COMPENSATION INTERNAL SERVICE FUND (CONTINUED)

Effect of Condition

Although the County reduced the deficit fund balance in the self insurance fund, there is still an unfunded liability of \$556.865 at June 30, 2008.

Recommendation

We recommend the County take appropriate action to ensure adequate reserves.

Corrective Action Plan

The County has implemented a plan to slowly increase the reserve amount. Initially, it was planned to have this fully implemented in three years; however, with the increase in claims and liability the County has been unable to collect adequate reserves without a significant negative impact on departmental operations so additional time is needed to fully implement. Rates will continue to reflect enough to recover adequate reserves within the next few years.

08-FS-05 FAIRGROUND - CAPITAL ASSET

Condition

At the time of our fieldwork we noted that one truck was reported as disposed without getting prior approval from the County Administrative Office or providing documentation as to sale or other disposal. Subsequently it was reported that the truck had not been returned.

Cause

The Fair incorrectly handled and/or reported the disposal of a capital asset.

Criteria

County policy requires that disposals of capital assets be approved by the County Administrative Office.

Effect of Condition

County policy was not followed regarding the disposal of a truck.

Recommendation

We recommend that County policy be followed for the disposal of all capital assets.

Corrective Action Plan

The County has policies for capital assets, trust accounts and bank accounts. If departments are not following County policy; it is either because they choose to not follow policy or they do not request if there is a policy. The Auditor/Controller has held annual classes, for all departments, on the proper way that trust and bank accounts must be handled—what they can and can not be used for and how to properly balance them and class documentation is available. All departments with trusts or bank accounts are required to sign off, monthly, that they are balancing these accounts. Asset forms are available on the County's website and the Auditor/Controller requires that proper supporting documents are submitted prior to making changes in the automated system. The Board of Supervisor's have continually stressed, to departments, that all policy and procedures must be followed. This issue will be given to the Audit Committee to assist in implementing a corrective action plan.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

08-FS-06 ALCOHOL AND DRUG - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Condition

During our audit we noted that the department does not maintain a listing of outstanding DUI program client fees.

Cause

The department does not maintain an aged accounts receivable listing.

Criteria

Good internal control requires that all amounts owed to the department for DUI client fees be tracked.

Effect of Condition

By not maintaining an aged accounts receivable listing for DUI program client fees the department does not have a good accounting of amounts owed.

Recommendation

We recommend that the department develop and maintain an aged accounts receivable listing for all amounts owned to the department.

Corrective Action Plan

This department has closed.

08-FS-07 ANIMAL CONTROL - DOG LICENSE RECEIPTS

Condition

We noted that the Animal Control department does not use pre-numbered receipts for dog licenses fees.

Cause

The Animal Control department does not use pre-numbered receipts for monies collected for dog licenses.

Criteria

Good internal control requires that the receipts issued be pre-numbered and that all receipt numbers be accounted for properly.

Effect of Condition

The risk of monies collected for dog license fees being misappropriated is increased if the department does not issue pre-numbered receipts.

Recommendation

We recommend that the department issue pre-numbered receipts for all collection of monies for dog licenses.

Corrective Action Plan

Animal Control Services will either use computer generated receipts or receipts from a receipt book issued by the Auditor/Controller so all future receipts, for all types of collections, will be pre-numbered.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

08-FS-08 ASSESSOR - BUSINESS PROPERTY

Condition

During our audit we noted the policies and procedures for the business property division had not been updated since 1988.

Cause

The department has not updated the policies and procedures for the business property division in twenty years.

Criteria

Good internal control requires written policies and procedures be maintained.

Effect of Condition

By not having updated written policies and procedures in place, the possibility of errors or irregularities occurring and not being detected in a timely manner is increased.

Recommendation

We recommend that the department update the business property division policies and procedures.

Corrective Action Plan

The Assessor's office has a limited written Business Property procedure in their office manual. Additional information is included in the Megabyte procedures manual. The department is currently reviewing and updating procedures.

08-FS-09 BUILDING - FEE TESTING

Condition

During our test of cash receipts, we noted one receipt for which the fee collected was not on the fee schedule.

Cause

The County fee schedule did not include all authorized fees.

Criteria

All fees collected should be in accordance with an approved fee schedule.

Effect of Condition

The fee collected was not in accordance with the approved fee schedule.

Recommendation

We recommend that the fee schedule be reviewed and updated as necessary.

Corrective Action Plan

The Building department will amend their fee schedule in January 2009 to include a fee for "Permit Listings".

MANAGEMENT REPORT

CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

08-FS-10

FAIRGROUNDS - ACCOUNTING FOR CAPITAL ASSETS

Condition

The Fair has not adequately identified or tacked money that was funded by the State of California for the purchase, construction and improvement of real property.

Cause

Department staff was not aware of the requirement to separately identify State funds used to acquire or improve real property.

Criteria

California Government Code Section 25902 requires all fairs receiving State funds used to acquire or improve real property to account for these funds separately, since a portion of these funds would be returned to the State if the fairgrounds were sold.

Effect of Condition

The Fair is not in compliance with California Government Code Section 25902.

Recommendation

We recommend that the Fair design a system that monitors and tracks all current year and prior year expenditures for capital improvements to the fairgrounds that were funded by the State of California.

Corrective Action Plan

The Fair has had department head turnover in the past few years that has impacted oversight and impaired the implementation of some procedures that would insure proper reporting and control. Two members of the Board of Supervisor's have been assigned to the Fair.

08-FS-11 FAIRGROUNDS - ADMISSION REVENUE

Condition

We noted that the Fair did not maintain source documents such as ticket manifests and remaining ticket inventories in order to verify ticket sales and admission revenue.

Cause

There are no internal control procedures in place to ensure that proper source documentation is maintained.

Criteria

Good internal control requires that proper source documentation be maintained for ticket manifests and remaining ticket inventory.

Effect of Condition

Due to lack of source documentation the amount of tickets sold and on hand could not be determined.

Recommendation

We recommend that the Fair improve its internal control over admission revenue by ensuring all source documents, such as ticket manifests and remaining ticket inventories are retained for audit purposes.

MANAGEMENT REPORT CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

08-FS-11 FAIRGROUNDS - ADMISSION REVENUE (CONTINUED)

Corrective Action Plan

The Fair has had department head turnover in the past few years that has impacted oversight and impaired the implementation of some procedures that would insure proper reporting and control. Two members of the Board of Supervisor's have been assigned to the Fair.

08-FS-12 JAIL - RECONCILIATION OF TRUST ACCOUNTS

Condition

At the time of our fieldwork, we noted that although the inflow and outflows of the DOJ Livescan Trust was being reconciled on a monthly basis, the actual amounts held at month end were not reconciled to a detail listing of open trust items.

Cause

The department does not have a detail listing of open trust items to reconcile to the actual amounts held in the trust accounts.

Criteria

Good internal control over monies held in trust requires that the account balance be reconciled to a detail listing of open trust items.

Effect of Condition

The risk of errors and/or irregularities occurring and not being detected is increased when trust accounts are not reconciled to a detail listing of open trust items.

Recommendation

We recommend that the DOJ Livescan Trust account be reconciled to a detail listing of open trust items at the end of each month.

Corrective Action Plan

The live scan trust has been reconciled; a new system has been implemented to track deposits and payments in order to prevent future errors.

08-FS-13 PUBLIC GUARDIAN - TRUST ACCOUNT

Condition

During our audit we noted that the department pools the majority (84%) of conservatee cash in one cash account on the County General Ledger on Fund 5018.

Cause

The department does not account for each conservatee's cash separately in Fund 5018 on the County general ledger.

MANAGEMENT REPORT CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

08-FS-13 PUBLIC GUARDIAN - TRUST ACCOUNT (CONTINUED)

Criteria

To facilitate reconciliation of individual conservatee cash accounts and reduce the amount of additional work done by department staff for items that can be automatically done by the County general ledger software when cash conservatee's cash balance is recorded in their own general ledger account.

Effect of Condition

When individual conservatee accounts are not accounted for separately the possibility of errors or irregularities occurring and not being detected timely is increased.

Recommendation

We recommend that the department separately account for each conservatee's cash on the County general ledger and no longer use the 10100 cash account to account for multiple conservatees.

Corrective Action Plan

Cash account 10100 has been closed and the department has set up separate cash accounts for all clients. All accounts are being properly balanced and maintained by the department and any out of balance issues are immediately resolved.

08-FS-14 SHERIFF - INMATE MONIES

Condition

At the time of our fieldwork, we noted that although the Inmate Trust bank account was being reconciled to the bank activity on a monthly basis the balance held in the account was not being reconciled to the check register balance.

Cause

The department does not maintain a check register account balance.

Criteria

Good internal control over monies held for inmates requires that the account balance be reconciled to the check register balance.

Effect of Condition

The risk of errors and/or irregularities occurring and not being detected is increased when monies held in the Inmate Trust bank account are not reconciled to the check register balance.

Recommendation

We recommend that the Inmate Trust bank account be properly accounted for and the balance be reconciled to the check register balance on a monthly basis.

Corrective Action Plan

The Jail commander has made the necessary changes to the inmate bank account. Commander Gosalves has purchased a check register which will allow her to maintain a more accurate record of the inmate monies and reconcile with the bank monthly which will reduce the chance of error or irregularities with tracking inmate funds.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Audit Reference	Status of Prior Year Audit Finding
07-01	ASSESSOR - PROPOSITION 8 REVIEWS
	Recommendation
	We recommend that all Proposition 8 properties be reviewed on an annual basis.
	Status
	Implemented
07-02	ASSESSOR - BUSINESS PROPERTY
	Recommendation
	We recommend that the department budget time to develop, implement, and maintain written policies and procedures for the business property division.
	Status
	Not Implemented
07-03	UNDER-FUNDING OF WORKERS COMPENSATION INTERNAL SERVICE FUND
	Recommendation
	We recommend the County take appropriate action to ensure adequate reserves and appropriate allocation of costs.
	Status
	In Progress
07-04	PAYROLL WITHHOLDING
	Recommendation
	We recommend that the SDI rate be set in accordance with the State approved rate.
×	Status
	Implemented
07-05	DRUG & ALCOHOL - RESTRICTIVE ENDORSEMENTS
	Recommendation
	We recommend that all checks be restrictively endorsed when received.
	Status
	Implemented

MANAGEMENT REPORT

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Audit Reference	Status of Prior Year Audit Finding
07-06	FAIRGROUNDS - STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
	Recommendation
	We recommend that the Fair comply with Food and Agriculture Code Section 4505 and prepare a Statement of Operations at the end of each fiscal year and submit it on or before the first day of September each year.
	Status
	Implemented
07-07	FAIRGROUNDS - ACCOUNTING FOR CAPITAL ASSETS
	Recommendation
	We recommend that the Fair design a system that monitors and tracks all current year and prior year funds that were received from Fairs and Expositions and the California Construction Authority and spent on improvements to the fairgrounds.
	Status
	Not Implemented
07-08	FAIRGROUNDS - ADMISSION REVENUE
	Recommendation
	We recommend that the Fair improve its internal control over admission revenue by ensuring all source documents, such as ticket manifests and remaining ticket inventories are retained for audit purposes.
	Status
	Not Implemented
07-09	FAIRGROUNDS - BANK RECONCILIATION
	Recommendation
	We recommend that all bank accounts be reconciled to the County general ledger and all collections be deposited to the County Treasury in a timely manner.
	Status
	Implemented
07-10	FAIRGROUNDS - CASH ON HAND
	Recommendation
	We recommend that collections be reconciled to the receipts issued and all differences resolved.
	Status
	Implemented

MANAGEMENT REPORT

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Audit Reference	Status of Prior Year Audit Finding
07-11	PUBLIC GUARDIAN - TRUST FUND 5018
	Recommendation
,	We recommend that the department reconcile the Public Guardian Trust on a monthly basis.
	Status
	Implemented
07-12	GASB 43 AND 45
	Recommendation
	We recommend that the County develop a plan to ensure timely implementation of GASB 43 and 45.
	Status
	Implemented
07-13	CAPITAL ASSETS
	Recommendation
	We recommend that depreciation rates and amounts taken on buildings be reviewed.
	Status
	Implemented